

VIGO COUNTY COUNCIL
Minutes
Tuesday, August 25, 2009 at 5:00 P.M.
Council Chambers, Vigo County Annex

Pledge of Allegiance

Meeting was called to order by Jon Marvel and pledge was led by President Kathy Miller.

Calling of the roll

Roll Call

Present: Bill Bryan, Brad Anderson, Ed Ping, Tim Curley, Darrick Scott, Mark Bird, and Kathy Miller.

Corrections to the journal of the preceding meeting, if needed

July 28, 2009 Council meeting & August 12th Annual Budget Review

Motion: to approve minutes of the July 28 and August 12 meetings,

Action: Approve, **Moved by** Darrick Scott, **Seconded by** Ed Ping.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7).

Yes: Bill Bryan, Brad Anderson, Ed Ping, Tim Curley, Darrick Scott, Mark Bird, and Kathy Miller.

Public Comments

Eric Frey, attorney for Green Leaf, Inc. spoke to Council. Green Leaf, Inc. makes nylon and plastic bushing products. Green Leaf, Inc. is requesting a real and personal property tax abatement for expansion for their property in Fontanet (Nevins Township). Their average hourly rate is \$14.00 hour and they offer healthcare and a 401K plan. They employ 66 people in and will be adding an additional fourteen (14) new people with the expansion. The State will be doing grant funding for training and also tax incentives. This will help in getting people back to work. Green Leaf, Inc. is in Councilman Curley's district. They have filed for a 10 year real and 10 year personal property abatement. They would like to get council approval as soon as possible to get this project started. Councilman Anderson asked if this abatement is just for expansion and it was confirmed. Councilman Curley asked about their time line. Mr. Frey advised that the start date is in the next 30-60 days. The personal property tax abatement portion is approximately \$23,000 and real property is \$21,931. It makes a significant advantage to a company their size, however and is a piece of their financial package. They use Sackrider & Co. for bookkeeping. Councilman Bryan stated he thinks this is a blessing. President Miller assigned this to Special Projects Committee and wants it brought back before council in September for a preliminary vote.

Communications from elected officials of the County

There are none

Communications from other officials or agencies

There are none.

Motion to suspend rules to vote on Amendment of Indentured Trust

Motion: to approve, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Mark Bird, **Seconded by** Darrick Scott.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7). **Yes:** Bill Bryan, Brad Anderson, Ed Ping, Tim Curley, Darrick Scott, Mark Bird, and Kathy Miller.

The rules are now suspended.

Amendment of Indentured Trust—Denise Barkdull

There was one additional change to the document for rating purposes. If a bank pays any part of the bond, Republic Services must reimburse them in five (5) days or be found in default. From the County perspective, the bank is responsible; there is no change to the County. Councilman Anderson asked “if they are in default, does the bank allow them to pay penalty and be okay?” That is a requirement but does not trigger that extra step until the five (5) day deadline.

Motion: to approve, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Bill Bryan, **Seconded by** Darrick Scott.

Vote: Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7). **Yes:** Bill Bryan, Brad Anderson, Ed Ping, Tim Curley, Darrick Scott, Mark Bird, and Kathy Miller.

2010 Budget Recommendations

Pierson Twp

Riley Civil Town

Prairie Creek-Vigo Conservancy

Motion: to approve Pierson Township, Riley Civil Town and Prairie Creek Conservancy as submitted, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Darrick Scott, **Seconded by** Brad Anderson. **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7). **Yes:** Bill Bryan, Brad Anderson, Ed Ping, Tim Curley, Darrick Scott, Mark Bird, and Kathy Miller.

Reports from Standing Committees

a. Annual Budget Committee

i. First Reading of the 2010 Budget

Read by Tim Seprodi, Auditor of VC (FORM 3).

Councilman Scott advised that the budget committee has met and has some issues that need to be brought to council. The issues concern positions within Voter Registration and the IT department.

Voter registration currently has one open position and by law there must be an equal number of democrats and republicans working in the department. The

Council must decide if they are going to allow the open position to be filled or cut an additional position so the numbers will be equal. The reduction of both positions would reduce the budget by approximately \$75,000 annually.

The director of the IT department, Scot Swan, has requested that the position of the Programmer be eliminated from the budget and replaced with a Network Administrator position. The change would result in a net savings of approximately \$6,000 annually as well as meet the needs of the department more efficiently. Mr. Swan as prepared a job description for the new position. Councilman Bird asked if there was an appropriation in the IT budget for part time help. Kylissa Miller, Chief Deputy Auditor, responded that they are currently paying for the additional help out of contractual services. **Motion:** To not allow the open position be filled and delete it from the 2010 budget along with an additional position in Voter Registration and to also allow the elimination of the Programmer position in the IT department and the creation of a Network Administrator position, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Darrick Scott, **Seconded by** Ed Ping. **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7). **Yes:** Bill Bryan, Brad Anderson, Ed Ping, Tim Curley, Darrick Scott, Mark Bird, and Kathy Miller.

Councilman Ping thanked those council members that filled in for him during this budget process. He did not see anything addressed regarding take home vehicles, however. Commissioner Ciolli was asked to address the Council regarding this. Commissioner Ciolli responded the Commissioners have been looking at fuel consumption and the possibility of employees receiving a fuel stipend rather than automatic fueling. The Commissioners will be looking at who has takes home vehicles and to whether or not they are a requirement of the job. Currently there are twenty-one (21) take home vehicles outside of the Sheriff's department. Councilman Scott noted there was a recommendation to cut 20% was cut from all fuel budgets with the exception of the Sheriff's department. Councilman Curley advised he has received many phone calls and statements regarding the necessity of take home vehicles. Councilman Bryan suggested the gasoline and vehicle maintenance budgets for the commissioner vehicles be appropriated in the Commissioners budget instead of the Highway budget. This would aid with accountability? Per Commissioner Ciolli, they do have accountability. They turn in monthly reports and we should be able to get print out. He's been doing right by it since he started but doesn't know about others. He will look at accountability and is aware the public is upset about that. President Miller stated that fuel and cell phones were the two hot topics in public forums earlier in the year. She advised the public that the Commissioners and the Council are moving in the right direction. Councilman Ping asked why any of the vehicles are taken home. Why aren't they parked and used during the workday?

Reports from Select Committees

There were none.

Ordinances Relating to Appropriations

b. Budget Adjustments

i. Resolution of Re-Allocation of Existing Appropriation 2009-8

Councilman Bird addressed the Council regarding a request for a transfer within the jail budget for \$70,000 for repair of roof. The mold has been cut out per Commissioner Ciolli and will not be a problem again with the repair to the roof. However there may still be a problem with the flat roof sections on the north side. Sheriff Jon Marvel advised that the mold issue has been blown out of proportion and wants public to know it was not dangerous as it appeared. Leaks in old part of jail will continue but it has nothing to do with weather and roof but because of inmates stuffing pipes full of junk. **Motion:** Pass Resolution of Re-Allocation of Existing Appropriations 2009-8, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Darrick Scott, **Seconded by** Mark Bird. **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 8). **Yes:** Bill Bryan, Brad Anderson, Ed Ping, Tim Curley, Darrick Scott, Mark Bird, Kathy Miller.

ii. Resolution 2009-12

Transfer Funds from Levy Excess to Rainy Day Fund. Councilman Bird advised a resolution was passed earlier this year and this resolution is allowing that any 2008 and prior penalties collected in 2009 be transferred to the Rainy Day Fund. If we do not pass this resolution, it would say in levy excess and the levy would be reduced in the future. **Motion:** Pass Resolution 2009-12, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Mark Bird, **Seconded by** Darrick Scott. **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7). **Yes:** Bill Bryan, Brad Anderson, Ed Ping, Tim Curley, Darrick Scott, Mark Bird, and Kathy Miller.

c. Special Projects

i. Resolution 2009-11

Ryan Oilar, Council Administrator, addressed council. Mr. Britton called Mr. Oilar moments ago and asked that the second reading of this resolution be postponed indefinitely. Mr. Britton did not state the reason for the postponement. **Motion:** To postpone Resolution 2009-11, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Darrick Scott, **Seconded by** Mark Bird. **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7). **Yes:** Bill Bryan, Brad Anderson, Ed Ping, Tim Curley, Darrick Scott, Mark Bird, and Kathy Miller.

Honorary Resolutions

There are none.

Resolutions Relating to Fiscal Policies of the Council

There are none.

First Reading by Summary Reference of Proposed Ordinances and Resolutions

There are none.

Motion: To reinstate the rules, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Darrick Scott, **Seconded by** Mark Bird. **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7). **Yes:** Bill Bryan, Brad Anderson, Ed Ping, Tim Curley, Darrick Scott, Mark Bird, and Kathy Miller.

Appointments

There are none.

Closing Remarks

Councilman Bryan commended the budget committee for their work on the budget. He thinks they have done an excellent job.

Councilman Anderson advised the Council that Vermillion County has to eliminate 22 people in Highway dept and is going to have to use special funds to keep the county going.

Councilman Ping stated there is still a lot more to do.

Councilman Bird stated the budget committee has done a good job as well as the department heads, commissioners and everyone else involved in the process.

Councilman Scott state that last year's budget committee helped in streamlining the 2010 budget. The Highway department is eliminating four (4) additional positions. Also he believes they do need to purchase equipment purchased to help them complete their work.

Councilman Curley thinks this Council tries to do what is right for taxpayers and is usually in agreement. Starting January, the department heads need to be aware that they need to live within their approved budget.

President Miller stated "challenge brings opportunity" This budget has brought those challenges and the opportunity to restructure, do more with less, move forward in a fiscally responsible and efficient manner. We have a great team to move forward in that direction.

Adjournment

Motion: Adjourn, **Action:** Approve, **Moved by** Bill Bryan, **Seconded by** Tim Curley. **Vote:** Motion carried by unanimous roll call vote (**summary:** Yes = 7). **Yes:** Bill Bryan, Brad Anderson, Ed Ping, Tim Curley, Darrick Scott, Mark Bird, and Kathy Miller.

Presented to the Vigo County Council, read in full and adopted as written this 22nd day of September 2009.

AYE

NAY

_____ Brad Anderson _____

_____ Mark Bird _____

_____ Bill Bryan _____

_____ Tim P. Curley _____

_____ Ed Ping _____

_____ Darrick Scott _____

Kathy Miller, President

Attest:

Timothy M. Seprodi
Auditor